



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbf>

Contact: Diann Ritschard, (970) 870-2187

Natural resource projects sought for funding in Rio Blanco County

(Steamboat Springs, COL - June 9, 2011) -- The MedBow-Routt Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is seeking proposals for projects that will enhance forest ecosystems or restore and improve land health and water quality on the White River National Forest and other near-by lands in Rio Blanco County. Project proposals are due to the Blanco Ranger District by July 1, 2011.

"Rio Blanco County will have an estimated \$113,000 to spend on projects, made available through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act," said RAC Chairman Jerry Paxton. "These funds can be leveraged with matching funds."

The MedBow RAC was established in 2009 to serve Jackson and Routt counties in Colorado and Albany and Carbon counties in Wyoming. The MedBow RAC volunteered to help Rio Blanco County to solicit and select projects so that a separate RAC did not need to be formed to manage these funds.

The RAC works closely with the Forest Service to recommend projects that will benefit Forest health, fish, wildlife, soils, watersheds and other resources; maintain roads, trails, and other infrastructure; or control noxious weeds. The Forest Service is accepting proposals on behalf of the RAC. Please call Ken Coffin at 970-878-6001, or email kcoffin@fs.fed.us for a proposal form or more information.

Projects must be located on National Forest System Lands in Rio Blanco County or on other nearby lands where the project will benefit natural resources on the National Forests. Projects can be completed by Forest Service personnel, through partnership agreements or by open-bid contracting with individuals and corporations.

In July, the RAC will review projects for possible funding.
